

Arab League regrets Shultz remarks

TUNIS (R) — The Arab League Saturday described as "disappointing" remarks made by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz earlier this week in which he held the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) responsible for the failure of its talks with Jordan. The Jordanian-PLO talks were aimed at finding a common stand that would have allowed Jordan to enter peace negotiations on the basis of President Reagan's call for Palestinian autonomy in association with Jordan on the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Tunis-based, pan-Arab organisation said in a statement that Mr. Shultz should have instead blamed Israel since it had rejected outright all peace plans including President Reagan's.

Jordan Times

An independent political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جورنال تائمز الاردن مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الرأي"

Volume 8 Number 2241

AMMAN, SUNDAY APRIL 17, 1983 — RAJAB 4, 1403

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Heath cancels visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — Former British Prime Minister Edward Heath, who was expected to arrive in Amman Sunday on a short private visit, has postponed the visit, a European Community spokesman said Saturday. The spokesman did not say why Mr. Heath cancelled his visit.

Christian-Druze fighting flares

BEIRUT (R) — Heavy fighting flared Friday between Christian and Druze villagers in the Israeli-held mountains above Beirut, Lebanese security sources said. The sources reported an hour-long artillery exchange between the right-wing Christian militia stronghold of Souq Al Gharb and the nearby village of Aitah, which is held by Druze Muslim militiamen. They had no information on casualties.

Islamic antiquities stolen in Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Thieves stole \$4 million worth of valuables from Jerusalem's Islam Museum during the night, police said Saturday. Among the stolen items were ancient watches and clocks, as well as paintings and rare books.

France lends \$80m to Lebanese army

BEIRUT (R) — France and Lebanon Friday signed a 600 million franc (\$80 million) long-term loan agreement, covering supplies of French military equipment to the Lebanese army, officials said. Lebanese officials said the loan would be used to buy French equipment on soft terms for the Lebanese army.

Paris to lift travel currency restrictions

PARIS (R) — Controversial restrictions on the amount of money French citizens can spend on foreign travel will be lifted at the end of the year, French Finance Ministry officials said Saturday. The restrictions limit French tourists to 2,000 francs (\$270) in foreign currency this year and 1,000 francs (\$135) in French currency each time they leave the country.

Somali rebels say 250 soldiers killed

NAIROBI (R) — Rebels fighting to overthrow Somali President Mohammed Siad Barre say they killed more than 250 Somali soldiers in raids in central and northern parts of the country in recent weeks.

Indonesia executes fanatic hijacker

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesia's Attorney General Ismail Saleh announced Saturday that Imam Ikhwan Muhammad Zein, 37, a convicted Muslim fanatic, had been executed following the rejection of his plea for clemency from President Suharto. Mr. Saleh, speaking to reporters, did not say when Mr. Imam was executed, nor did he give other details. The leader of a small band of fanatic Muslim youth in West Java, Mr. Imam was found guilty of masterminding the hijacking of an Indonesian airliner to Bangkok in 1981.

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Jordan urges U.S. pressure on Israel

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan Saturday expressed disappointment with the failure so far of American efforts to achieve a speedy Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and called on the U.S. to exert pressure on Israel to secure a just and lasting Middle East settlement.

The Jordanian position was expressed by the minister of information, Adnan Abu Odeh, who was also quoted as saying that the United States "shoulders a special responsibility towards achieving a just and comprehensive solution that would safeguard the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland."

The United States' responsibility, the minister said, stems from the special relationship Washington has with Israel and its constant military support for Israel enabling it to have military superiority in the region.

The Jordanian news agency, Petra, quoted Mr. Abu Odeh as telling a delegation from the U.S. National War College that Israel's military superiority has prompted it to embark on "expansionist plans at the expense of the Palestinian people and neighbouring Arab states," and that, since the United States is the major source of power for Israel, it should exert pressure on that state.

"The Lebanon experiment,"

Mr. Abu Odeh said, "represents a true case for testing American credibility, and any shortcoming on its part will no doubt reflect badly on America's image in the Arab World."

"The present situation gives us the right to question America's determination to put pressure on Israel which is necessary to achieve a just and durable Middle East settlement based on U.N. resolutions," the minister said.

During the meeting with the U.S. delegation, the minister explained Jordan's attitude towards the Palestine problem and the Middle East issue over the past 16 years of Israeli occupation. "Jordan has been seeking to establish stability, peace and security in the region based on U.N. resolutions that guarantee the basic rights of all nations in the region," Mr. Abu Odeh said.

He added that Israel has always constituted a stumbling block, impeding a peace settlement because it continues to annex Arab lands and expand in the Arab region.

Cairo welcomes SAM-5 supply to Damascus

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's defence minister said in an interview published Saturday that the Soviet SAM-5 missiles sent to Syria could help it redress the military balance with Israel.

Field Marshal Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala told the Cairo weekly Al-Ahram that "Syria's obtaining of SAM-5 missiles could help it strengthen its defensive capabilities and achieve a partial military balance with Israel."

The minister said Libya's increasing links with the Soviet Union and with Warsaw Pact countries could threaten to bring foreign troops near the Egyptian borders.

"We would look with concern at such a development, particularly if Libya's threats to its neighbours, including Sudan, continued," Field Marshal Abu Ghazala said. Egypt and Sudan are partners in a defence pact. Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri accused Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi two months ago of plotting his overthrow and massing troops near the border.

Karachi protesters whipped

KARACHI (R) — At least 44 Muslim militants have been whipped in a mass punishment for involvement in religious violence here this week, a government statement reported Saturday.

It said the traditional Islamic punishment was carried out Friday morning at Karachi's central jail with each offender receiving from 10 to 15 lashes.

Jail sources, however, said the number of people whipped totalled 84.

The people whipped were arrested over the last four days in clashes between minority Shia and majority Sunni Muslims during which shops, houses and cars were burned in Pakistan's largest city.

The fighting was part of a dispute between the sects over ownership of a Karachi mosque. The dispute led to military curfews on parts of Karachi last month and in February.

Rabat defends Reagan plan

RABAT (R) — Moroccan Minister of State Ahmad Alaoui said Friday President Reagan's Middle East peace plan had positive aspects and tended towards the creation of a Palestinian state.

"The Reagan plan has the merit of existing. Even more it contains positive aspects," Mr. Alaoui said in an editorial in the pro-government newspaper "Maroc Soir."

"The United States clearly declares itself against any form of avowed or camouflaged annexation. Moreover, it recognises the national rights of the Palestinian people," he said.

If it does not satisfy all Arab demands, the American plan was nevertheless "a positive prelude."

Syria toughens conditions for pullout from Lebanon

DAMASCUS (R) — The Syrian government newspaper Tishrin said Saturday that talks on a pullout of Syrian forces from Lebanon could not begin before all Israeli troops had left the country.

The comment appeared to toughen the Syrian position on the Beirut government's drive for a withdrawal of all foreign forces — Israeli, Syrian and Palestinian — from Lebanon.

Last month Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskander was quoted as saying Syria would agree to a simultaneous withdrawal of Syrian and Israeli forces.

West Germany to deploy missiles if Geneva talks fail

BONN (R) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl said in a newspaper interview Saturday he was determined to deploy new U.S. missiles in West Germany if Moscow refused to reduce its arsenal at the Geneva arms talks.

Mr. Kohl, who held talks with President Reagan in Washington Friday, told the newspaper Welt Am Sonntag he was convinced the U.S. was doing everything possible to reach a compromise with Moscow at bilateral nuclear arms talks in Geneva.

The chancellor also expressed confidence that West Germans would accept the deployment of



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday confers with a visiting delegation from the U.S. National War College (Petra photo)

Hassan confers with U.S. delegation

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan conferred here Saturday with a delegation from the U.S. National War College, led by Bruce Langen.

During the meeting, held at the Royal Court, Prince Hassan explained to the delegation Israel's settlement programmes in the occupied Arab territories and its illegal actions to Judaize the territory and evict its legitimate Arab owners, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra said.

The meeting was attended by the U.S. charge d'affaires in Amman.

Later on Saturday, the delegation visited the army headquarters and met with Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt. Gen. Sbarif Zaid Ibn Sbaker and Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleh. They were briefed on training programmes for the Jordanian Armed Forces.

The delegation, which arrived in Amman Friday for a visit expected to last several days, also

led at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and met with the ministry's acting secretary general. The ministry official briefed the delegation on Israel's expansionist plans in Arab territory and its establishment of settlements on Arab lands.

The 17-member delegation which is on a Middle East tour on a fact finding mission, also visited the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and met with its Director Albert Buross. They were briefed on the RSS' programmes and activities.

Wazir says no Jordan-PLO deadlock

DAMASCUS (R) — A senior official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has said it would try to continue a dialogue with Jordan, despite the breakdown of its talks on a common approach to Middle East peace moves.

Jordan abandoned the six-month-old negotiations last Sunday, saying that the Palestinians want to go back on an agreement which had been reached with PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

Khalil Al Wazir, deputy com-

mander of PLO forces, told reporters here Friday night: "We do not believe that we reached a deadlock with Jordan."

He said the PLO would "try to continue this dialogue with the aim of setting up good relations with Jordan, with Syria and all Arab countries."

Mr. Wazir, popularly known as Abu Jihad, said the suspension of the talks was not due to a dispute between the PLO and Jordan over President Reagan's Middle East

peace plan.

It was caused by "the American attitude which refuses to deal with the Palestinian problem and the Middle East question through the recognition of Palestinian rights," he said.

Mr. Wazir accused the U.S. administration of inciting some Arab countries to withdraw their recognition of the PLO as representative of the Palestinians and to oppose it as an obstacle to peace.

PLO forces on full alert in E. Lebanon

DAMASCUS (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said Friday it put its forces in Lebanon on full alert as Syria warned of an Israeli troop build-up there.

The deputy commander of PLO forces, Khalil Al Wazir, said his forces in north and east Lebanon had been fully alerted and mobilised because the PLO was expecting a new Israeli military operation against Syria and its PLO allies.

Mr. Wazir, popularly known as Abu Jihad, was speaking to reporters in Damascus after arriving from Amman.

Earlier, state-run Damascus

Radio said Israel was massing troops in Lebanon in order to attack Syrian forces. "It is also undertaking suspicious moves and manoeuvres aimed at provoking Syria and mobilising world opinion against Syria," it said in a commentary.

Syrian and Israeli forces have confronted each other in central and eastern Lebanon since they fought a brief war last June when Israel invaded Lebanon.

PLO men have withdrawn from their bases in Israeli-occupied south Lebanon and their former Beirut headquarters, but thousands still operate behind Syrian lines.

Syrian newspapers and radio have delivered repeated warnings in recent days of an Israeli attack in Lebanon.

Israel has denied it is planning any assault but has warned in turn of the possibility of Syria mounting an attack.

On Friday, Lebanese security sources in Beirut reported unusual Syrian and Israeli overflights over eastern Lebanon, while the front line has been reported tense in recent days.

But Lebanese sources have not reported any fighting beyond the occasional artillery fire.

U.S. medical team to return after W. Bank illness probe

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — A medical team from the U.S. centres for disease control will return this weekend from the West Bank, where it has been investigating an outbreak of illness there, State Department spokesman Alan Romberg said Friday.

"The team has continued its work and is expected to return to the United States over the weekend to complete its analysis and write a report of its findings. We would expect to make that report available when it is concluded," Mr. Romberg said.

"We understand that the team has enjoyed excellent cooperation from all relevant medical au-

thorities and has been able to visit all the necessary sites and interview patients as required," he said.

With respect to the illness, he said, "We are not aware of any further outbreaks over the past two weeks and we understand that all or almost all the patients have been released from hospitals."

More than 800 Palestinians, mostly teenage schoolgirls, were affected by the outbreak, which the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said was part of an Israeli plot to scare and drive away the Palestinians from their homes in the occupied Arab territories.

West Germany to deploy missiles if Geneva talks fail

BONN (R) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl said in a newspaper interview Saturday he was determined to deploy new U.S. missiles in West Germany if Moscow refused to reduce its arsenal at the Geneva arms talks.

Mr. Kohl, who held talks with President Reagan in Washington Friday, told the newspaper Welt Am Sonntag he was convinced the U.S. was doing everything possible to reach a compromise with Moscow at bilateral nuclear arms talks in Geneva.

The chancellor also expressed confidence that West Germans would accept the deployment of

U.S. medium-range missiles "as a necessary antidote" to efforts for a settlement in Geneva.

U.S. officials in Washington said Friday Mr. Kohl had assured President Reagan Bonn would stick to its plan to install the first Pershing-2 missile in December barring an agreement.

"Whether there is an agreement in autumn depends on the Soviets, who must answer U.S. readiness with their own steps. This is what I am hoping for," Mr. Kohl said in the newspaper interview.

Opponents of the missile plan, intended by the North Atlantic

Treaty Organisation (NATO) to counter a Soviet build-up of medium-range rockets, have staged mass demonstrations throughout West Germany in the last year.

The leftist, ecologist Greens party, which won parliamentary seats at last month's national elections, has promised further demonstrations and blockades of U.S. military bases if the deployment goes ahead.

In the newspaper interview, which was released in advance of publication Sunday, Mr. Kohl denied suggestions by the opposition Social Democratic Party

(SPD) that he had failed to assert West German interests during his Washington talks.

"Since my election in 1982, I have continuously pushed for new, more extensive American concepts at the talks... we have brought our interests and ideas to full expression," he said.

He told the newspaper Bild Am Sonntag in a separate interview he hoped to explain West German security interests during a visit to Moscow this summer.

Moscow has threatened counter-measures if the U.S. missiles are deployed.

Habib, Mubarak discuss Lebanon

CAIRO (R) — U.S. Middle East envoy Philip Habib held talks here Saturday with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on the situation in Lebanon. Mr. Habib told reporters he had briefed Mr. Mubarak on developments in talks about the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon. The talks, between Lebanon and Israel, were continuing, Mr. Habib said, adding that he would return to Israel later Saturday. The 90-minute meeting was attended by Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali. Later the official Middle East News Agency (MENA) quoted Mr. Ali as saying President Mubarak has asked Mr. Habib "to exert maximum effort to expedite a solution for the Lebanese problem." "A solution must be found as soon as possible," Mr. Ali was quoted as saying.

Arafat due in Algiers

TUNIS (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat was expected in Algiers Saturday night for talks with President Chadli Benjedid, following a meeting with Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba here earlier in the day, the Tunisian news agency TAP said.

Mr. Arafat was expected to have "urgent" talks with Mr. Chadli on the PLO's approach to new talks with Jordan over a common approach to a Middle East peace process, TAP said.

In Rabat, the Moroccan news agency reported the arrival of PLO envoy Khaled Al Hassan in eastern city of Fez Friday night to deliver a message from Mr. Arafat to King Hassan on the PLO's wish to end differences with Jordan.

Mr. Arafat returned to Tunis during the night from a one-day visit to Bulgaria. His talks with Mr. Bourguiba were also attended by Tunisian Prime Minister Mohammed M'Zali, Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi, Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi and PLO Executive Committee members Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad) and Mohammad Abbas (Abu Mazen).

Mr. Arafat is due to chair a key meeting of the PLO leadership here on the talks with Jordan, abandoned by Jordan last Sunday.

The official PLO spokesman could not say when the meeting, originally scheduled for this weekend, would begin. Palestinian sources said Friday it had been put off at least until Wednesday.

In Damascus, Syrian-based members of the PLO Executive Committee said none of them had so far been invited to a meeting of the leadership, and they doubted whether such a meeting would take place in the next few days.

Nayef Hawatmeh, leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said the meeting could take place in 10 or 15 days.

"There is no hurry for such a meeting, it could be delayed for some time to give us sufficient

time to think of latest developments," he told Reuters.

"Palestinian will not surrender"

In Bulgaria, Mr. Arafat said that no force in the world would force the Palestinian people to surrender, the official BTA news agency reported.

Mr. Arafat, who arrived in Sofia Thursday night from Tunis, said his brief visit to Bulgaria had taken place in a "very difficult and fateful moment for the Palestinian problem under the conditions of the Middle East crisis," as quoted by BTA.

BTA said Mr. Arafat expressed his rejection of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's plan for Palestinian self-rule in association with Jordan as not corresponding to "the lawful rights of the Palestinian people as acknowledged by international law."

"I would like to say there is no force in the world capable of forcing the Palestinian people to surrender," he was quoted as saying.

"What we were robbed of militarily in the 88 days of the latest aggression shall never be taken away from us politically," he added.

A communique issued at the end of Mr. Arafat's meeting with Bulgarian President and Communist Party leader Todor Zhivkov condemned what is said were attempts at isolating the PLO from its natural allies, including the Arab countries and the Communist bloc headed by the Soviet Union.

"They noted that the PLO will work for the setting up of a confederation between the future independent Palestinian state and Jordan," a question for which the Bulgarian state "showed understanding," the communique said.

The communique said any settlement of Middle East crisis and the Palestinian problem should be based on the Arab peace plan worked out in Fez last September calling for an independent Palestinian state.

Shultz confident Jordan wants to enter talks

WASHINGTON (A.P.) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said Friday he is confident Jordan wants to join Middle East peace talks with Israel in a delegation with Palestinians who are not members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

But Mr. Shultz said in an appearance in Dallas, Texas, that Jordan has been stymied by the reluctance of other Arab countries to join it.

"I feel confident myself that King Hussein wants to do it," Mr. Shultz said. "He has very peaceful intentions himself and is looking for ways that he can step forward with at least implicit support from his Arab colleagues and with participation of non-PLO Palestinians."

The secretary's comments were made available to newsmen at the State Department.

There were these other developments on the Middle East here Friday:

— The National Association of Arab-Americans said King Hussein had agreed to address its annual meeting in Washington on May 14. The association has a membership of several thousand Americans of Arab descent.

— President Ronald Reagan met with Boutros Ghali, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, who delivered a message from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak urging Mr. Reagan to pursue his peace initiative despite recent setbacks.

— A State Department official said the negotiations on an Israeli troop withdrawal from Lebanon remain stalled over Israel's "security" demands in southern Lebanon.

Iraq invites Khomeini to Islamic conference

BAGHDAD (R) — President Saddam Hussein Saturday invited Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini to an Islamic conference here on the 31-month-old Iran-Iraq war.

Khomeini for 14 years during his exile before the 1979 Iranian revolution.

Commenting on a proposal to invite an official Iranian Muslim delegation to the conference, President Hussein said: "We agree and even invite Khomeini himself to attend this conference, the same way the Iraqi people and land hosted him for 14 years."

Mr. Hussein told the conference, attended by Muslim clergymen from some 50 countries, that Iraq was host to Ayatollah

6 Gulf Arab states revive oil slick talks in Dhahran

RIYADH (R) — Foreign ministers from six Gulf states Saturday began emergency talks on ways of preventing a giant oil slick from causing further pollution in the Gulf, officials said.

kmen to cap shattered oil wells in an Iranian field in the Gulf war zone.

Saturday's meeting between ministers from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will also discuss Jordan's decision to abandon talks on joint peace moves with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the Gulf official said.

The meeting in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, follows the breakdown of talks in Kuwait Friday at which Gulf states failed to persuade warring Iran and Iraq to allow wor-

HOME NEWS

The doyen of Italian jazz never tires of playing music

By Gamini Akmeemana
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — At 52, Giorgio Gaslini doesn't look old enough to be the father of Italian jazz. But some people have the luck to be fathers relatively young. His "family" consists of the Gaslini Octet, now in Amman to perform a wide spectrum of jazz music at the Royal Cultural Centre as part of the EEC Spring Festival.

Giorgio, breaking into rapid Italian when his English isn't expressive enough, has just arrived from Beirut, his first experience of the Middle East. "In east Beirut, they were very serious listening to us," he says, lighting his pipe. "Too serious. But in the American University, it was different, much better. Lots of young people, some Americans, so we had a swinging time."

Giorgio and his octet had been recording at Radio Jordan Friday afternoon. Fabio Morgera, the trombonist, arrives in the hotel lobby, slumps onto a sofa and complains that he's tired. "How?" asks Giorgio. Having convinced Fabio that a musician can't be tired, the master turns his attention once again to the interview.

"It is impossible to be tired playing music," he says. "When I'm tired, I play some music and I feel fine." Obviously, a man who gives between 150-180 concerts per year hasn't much time to feel tired. A noted composer as well, he has composed the music for six operas, several ballets and no less than 42 films—including the score of Antonioni's "The Night."

In 1957, when Giorgio was artistic director for Italian EMI, he

recorded a novel 12-tone jazz score for eight instruments. One of those who were impressed by that was actor and director Marcello Mastroianni, who passed on the record to Antonioni. The result was the score for "La Notte," which in 1960 won the Italian Oscar for music.

That was where Giorgio really took off, but his life up to that point had not been a particularly difficult one. His resourcefulness, matched by his boundless energy and zest for music, has been keeping him busy ever since he formed his first group in 1945, still a teenager. It was made up of his friends, who believed that the group had a contract.

In fact, Giorgio had no contract. He was hoping to get one after six months of hard work—and he did. Very soon, the group was playing every night for six months in Milan. Then came Italian radio, playing duets with a blind pianist, a jazz trio, first compositions of his own and, after joining the Conservatorio Giuseppe Verdi in Milan, conducting symphony orchestras.

But jazz was already a part of him. In the early fifties, most Italians still felt uncomfortable with jazz, but it was much better than things had been under Mussolini, who had banned jazz. But it wasn't Mussolini but raids day and night by allied bombers that forced Giorgio, only a boy, to leave Milan and live in the relative safety of the countryside.

There was at least a piano there, and a group of grown-up drifters who formed a big band and insisted that the schoolboy from Milan become their leader. For

two years, Giorgio and his very special band enlivened the countryside. It is surprising that Mussolini didn't get to hear about them. But then, so late in the war, he probably had other worries on his mind.

One of which no doubt was the fact that the dictator's son Romano was a jazz enthusiast. "Romano shocked Germans by playing jazz," chuckles Giorgio, adding that Mussolini's son is today a professional musician. "Also a friend of mine," he says, and adds quickly, with a frown, "but no politics. It's between two musicians, that's all."

Giorgio traces his enthusiasm for jazz to his father, a writer who was very fond of African music. Gaslini the elder wasn't a musician, but he played Puccini on the piano with only one hand. And they listened to African music. "I haven't been to Africa," says Giorgio, "but I grew up, went to New York, New Orleans, San Francisco. I played with Max Roach, Roswell Rudd and Gato Barbieri, and many more."

But his has been a very European jazz experience, with only periodic and brief excursions to the skyscraper-filled New World. "I don't want to live in America," Giorgio says. "It's very sad. They play jazz there, no one creates any more. The days of Duke Ellington are gone."

"I can tell you how bad it is: European audiences are better. I mean their responses. And there's the money, of course. To live in New York, I need let's say \$100 a day. I know very good musicians playing for \$25, or 50 for a con-

cert. That's why I say it is sad. I love to play in America, but I live in Europe."

He maintains that Italy is now the place for jazz in Europe. "In France, you have two festivals every year. In Italy, we have 10." And besides, says Giorgio, there are about a 1,000 jazz musicians in Italy now. "One hundred of them are good. Twenty, exceptional; about 10, really great." He politely declines to say to which category he belongs. But Fabio leans forward and says that Giorgio Gaslini is one of the great.

What about that popular conception that musicians drink heavily, eat? "Only the had ones drink," scoffs the immaculate Giorgio, who has been drinking a glass of orange juice. "I take a little whiskey occasionally, very little, baby's stuff." Then he adds solemnly: "but I know musicians who drink. Or worse. Max Roach told me once that he took drugs."

But the sombre mood doesn't last as Giorgio begins telling how he became a painter at the age of fifty. He produced a record with U.S. avant-garde jazz musician Anthony Braxton, which both dedicated to each other.

"On Anthony's side of the record, that's his special tribute to India, which he fondly remembers. I met Ravi Shankar, and his nephew, who is the greatest tabla player in India." Would there be an Arabian night some day? Giorgio hopes, but it's still rather early to say that.

Several members of the octet, including vocalist Francesca Oliveri, his only female member, enter the lobby looking for the



The Gaslini Octet, who are playing the Royal Cultural Centre Saturday and Sunday as part of the EEC Spring Festival

master. Most of the octet is formed of Giorgio's best students. They form a happy group. "I think they are tired," the master says, laying a fatherly hand on one's shoulder. The first concert is due the next night.

This "family" life is as time-consuming as the more ordinary sort. But Giorgio pauses when asked if it's lack of time that has kept him from getting married.

"Sometimes I have to get up and compose at three in the morning. Which woman do you think will understand that?" But he hasn't quite given up hope. "Who knows, maybe in Jordan," he says with a broad grin. Good luck, Giorgio.

The Gaslini Octet comprises: Giorgio Gaslini, pianoforte; Claudio Allifranchini, sax alto, soprano, flauto; Maurizio Caldura, sax tenore, soprano; Fabio Morgera,

tromba; Daniele di Gregorio, vibrafono e percussioni; Giko Pavan, basso; Paolo Pellegatti, batteria; and Francesca Oliveri, the vocalist.

The Gaslini Octet will give their second concert at the Royal Cultural Centre Sunday April 17 at 8:00 p.m.

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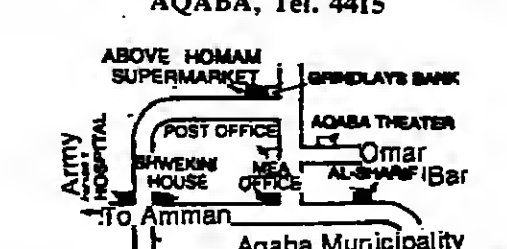
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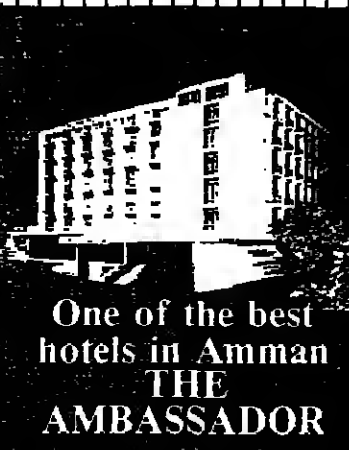
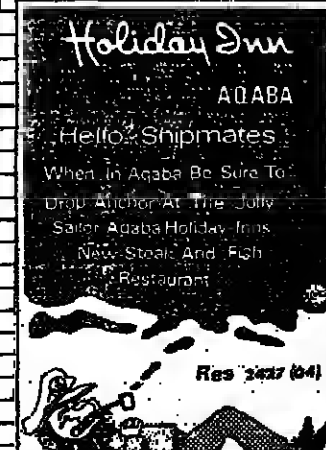
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HOME NEWS

Abu Qoura to raise treatment of Iraqis at Geneva meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — President of the Jordanian National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) Dr. Ahmad Abu Qoura said here Saturday that he will discuss with officials of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Geneva measures to be taken to protect Iraqi war prisoners in Iran against inhuman treatment.



Ahmad Abu Qoura

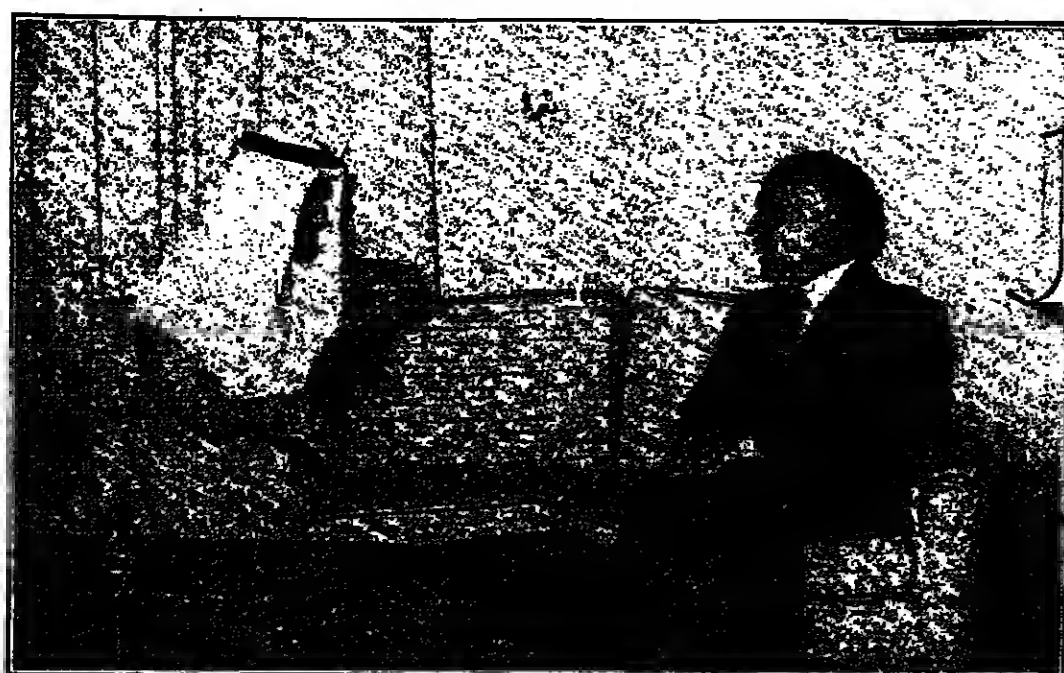
Dr. Abu Qoura was speaking before leaving for Geneva to attend the ICRC Standing Committee meeting in his capacity as commission chairman.

He said that the Iranian regime had lately killed a number of Iraqi war prisoners, and neglected the treatment of wounded prisoners in violation of human rights laws and the Geneva Conventions.

During his stay in Geneva, Dr. Abu Qoura will chair a two-day meeting of the Standing Committee to discuss preparations for holding an ICRC conference which is to be held in one of the Scandinavian countries next year.

The ICRC Standing Committee meets twice a year in ordinary session. Its functions are to organise the ICRC conferences and draw up the conference agenda.

Under the ICRC Conventions agreed in 1949, protection is offered to "the wounded and sick in the armed forces, doctors and medical personnel, the wounded and sick and medical personnel at sea, the shipwrecked, prisoners of war and civilians."



His Majesty King Hussein Saturday receives Sheikh Mohammad Ibn Zayed Al Nahayan, head of a visiting military delegation from the United Arab Emirates (Petra photo)

Hussein receives Emirates military team

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein received at the Royal Court Saturday the head of a visiting military delegation from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Sheikh Mohammad Ibn Zayed Al Nahayan.

The audience was attended by Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and UAE Ambassador to Jordan Abdullah Al Shorafa.

Ramtha gets JD 1.1m budget

AMTHA (Petra) — Ramtha Municipality has drawn up a general budget for the current year amounting to JD 1.1 million.

According to the municipality's mayor Mohammad Al Basbabshe, JD 520,000 has been allocated to buy land for car parks, JD 120,000 will be spent on buildings to house new light industries, JD 150,000 will be spent on road construction and JD 100,000 will be used to finance the first stage of a sports stadium in Ramtha. In addition, JD 25,000 will be used to buy vehicles for general use in the municipality.

Anani to endorse labour accords with Morocco, Tunisia

AMMAN (Petra) — Labour Minister Jawad Al Anani said here Saturday that Jordan will sign two agreements on labour-related affairs with Tunisia and Morocco.

The agreements will organise the movement of labourers between Jordan and the two, and will also provide for cooperation over social security matters, the minister said in a statement before leaving for the Casablanca where he will start a week-long tour of the two countries. The two agreements had earlier been initiated, by representatives from each side.

Social Security Corporation officials had been sent to Tunisia and Morocco to acquaint themselves with the implementation of social security laws in these countries.

According to Dr. Anani, similar agreements will be signed with the United Arab Emirates and Qatar later on in the year.

Badran opens five-day exhibition at Yarmouk

IRBID (Petra) — Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran Saturday opened at the university a five-day art exhibition by John Thompson, a lecturer at the university. On display are 30 paintings depicting the Jordanian people and countryside. The exhibition will be on display at the British Council Centre in Amman on April 25.

Financial analysis seminar begins

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-week training course on financial analysis opened at the Institute of Public Administration in Amman Saturday.

Taking part are 22 directors from industrial and commercial businesses as well as financial institutions in Jordan. They will hear lectures on financial analysis, financing operations, inflation and its effect on companies and capital expenditure.

The course is designed to increase the participants' standard of efficiency and knowledge and provide them with modern skills in handling finance-related issues.

Jordan, France discuss future telecom cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran conferred at his office here Saturday with French Communications Minister Louis Mexandeau on ways of bolstering bilateral cooperation in the telecommunications field.

The meeting was attended by Communications Minister Mohammad Addouh Al Zaben and French ambassador to Jordan Jacques-Alain de Sedouy.

Earlier Saturday, the French minister held talks with his counterpart on cooperation between Jordan and France and on improving telecommunications networks in Jordan. Dr. Zaben voiced Jordan's appreciation to the French government for helping in implementing telecommunications projects in Jordan.

At the meeting, Telecommunications Corporation

(TCC) Director-General Mohammad Shahed Ismail outlined his department's programmes for improving telecommunications in rural regions, and plans for expanding telephone links with 117 villages. He also spoke about the installation of new electronic telephone exchanges at Irbid, Jerash, Salt, Zarqa, Madaba and in the Ashrafieh district in Amman.

The two sides reviewed different stages of the latter project being implemented in Jordan with French aid in accordance with a Franco-Jordanian protocol signed by the two countries. When completed, the project will make available

112,000 new telephone lines in both urban and rural regions of Jordan. The new telephone exchanges to be installed in the six Jordanian centres have 29 branches linked by microwave and cable networks.

At the meeting, the two sides also discussed the prospect of another French loan to Jordan to finance new telephone services in rural regions, and they also explored ways of furthering general cooperation in telecommunications.

The French Minister and his Jordanian counterpart earlier visited Jordan's International Switching Centre and made direct phone calls to France. France helped Jordan install the service under the protocol agreement. Through the new service, subscribers in 10 major Jordanian towns can now make direct calls via nine international channels.



French Minister of Communications Louis Mexandeau (second from right) Saturday held discussions on the future of Franco-Jordanian relations with Prime Minister Mudar Badran (Petra photo)

French minister praises new system

By Afifah A. Kaloti
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — French Posts and Telecommunications Minister Louis Mexandeau, who arrived in Amman Friday, is to leave Sunday for Paris.

In a press conference held Saturday evening, Mr. Mexandeau said that he was very impressed by the economic development and technological modernisation which Jordan has been undergoing.

Verifying the operational value of French technology in the telecommunications field, Mr. Mexandeau said that the French equipment that has been installed as part of the international direct dialing exchange which was inaugurated Saturday works perfectly.

He said that a test run made on the system this morning showed

that the quality of equipment is up to standard.

The Thomson-CSF and CIT equipment for international telecommunications is the most modern and advanced of systems, he pointed out.

The system used in Jordan, he added, is very similar to that used in France, which is the leading one in its field. "Jordan is benefiting from this technology," he said.

During the press conference, Mr. Mexandeau reaffirmed the French position towards Jordan that he had already stated in an audience at the Royal Court with His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, and Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Addouh Al Zaben Saturday. "French projects in Jordan show the friendly and mutual relations existing between the two countries."

He said that France is willing to support and meet Jordan's telecommunications needs through both financing and training, in order that "Jordan will become self-sufficient in this field."

Mr. Mexandeau said that France would like to match the expertise of its competitors, and achieve parity with them.

He pointed out that the Thomson telecommunication equipment has been installed in 15 countries, and that another 29 countries are being serviced by CIT.

He added that 40 per cent of the international telecommunications market for the digital telephone exchange are installed by French firms.

Mr. Mexandeau said that 600 million francs had been allocated for this project in Jordan: "this amount being for the first phase."

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 Group
 1000 S. HAWAIIAN
 AVE., SUITE 100
 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814
 Phone: 551-1111, 551-1112

Circulation and advertising office:
 Jordan Press Foundation
 P.O. Box 100
 Amman, Jordan 11111
 Phone: 551-1111, 551-1112

The Jordan Times is published
 daily except on Sundays and
 public holidays. It is owned and
 operated by the Jordan Press
 Foundation.

GUEST EDITORIAL

The last offensive

By Ibrahim Abu Nab

IRAN has launched a new major attack against Iraq. And, again, their leaders announced that their latest offensive should be their last before "victory". Before that, they announced a "last offensive" which failed to achieve its goals. Now, they say, this offensive has not failed yet because it has not been completed.

What will Iran's ayatollahs tell their people after they have proved to them that their understanding of military affairs is not much better than their understanding of other religious and secular affairs? It is this kind of understanding which has thrown hundreds of thousands of the Iranian poor and wretched to a hell they could have done without.

The ayatollahs would have done a better job if they had used the effort of the millions of Iranians in developing Iran's national wealth and meeting the dire needs of the Iranian people by combating poverty, ignorance and diseases. But it seems that they have found it easier to continue throwing children, boys and old people to the furnace of war by giving them fabled "keys" to Heaven like the deeds of atonement which the Pope of Rome once gave to the Crusaders.

Perhaps this latest offensive will actually be the last offensive after being repulsed and crushed by the Iraqi forces. However, if it is not, the next offensive had better be made up of the ayatollahs themselves so that it would indeed be the last. Let them carry as many as they can of the "keys" to Heaven which they are promising their boys, only to turn a noble faith into superstitions. What the mullahs of Iran are doing is the very evil itself.

Regardless of what the ayatollahs do, Muslim clergymen all over the world should not live in isolation from their world as if they were in Mars. They should say their word in what Iran's leaders have done to Islam and the Muslims.

Japan has convened an international court to try the war criminals in Israel. Why then do Muslim clergymen and judges not convene an Islamic court to say the word of Islam and Muslims in the slaughtering of fellow Muslims and the attrition of their resources? It is the blind ignorance and total loss of insight which will lead them to Hell. They are wearing the clothes of clergymen but are only trying to take us back to the dark ages.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Arab activity is positive

THE current Arab political activity aimed at convincing the U.S. administration to begin an effective effort to activate the peace process is certainly positive. Sultan Qaboos's consultations in Washington and the message from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak sent to President Reagan are in particular a real good contribution. It is now quite evident that any delay in guaranteeing an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, and an American failure to achieve a freeze of Israeli settlement building have been and will continue to be the main obstacles to an advancement in the peace drive for the region.

If it proves true that the tripartite negotiations on Lebanon are approaching a conclusion, the signing of an agreement on the issue, during U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's forthcoming visit to the region, will help the U.S. administration restore its credibility, and necessitate a Palestinian decision on the chances of peace in the region.

Time is of great consequence at the moment, and the liberation of the occupied Arab territories and their people should be given top priority. Jordan has done everything in its power to make use of all available opportunities for peace. A new American positive effort will clearly break the region's present deadlock.

Al Dustour: Hollow words over Gulf

THE recent battles in the Iran-Iraq war make us wonder if the major world forces really care about the thousands of people being killed, injured and captured in the war. If all such losses, and the wide-scale destruction of the two warring countries do not move the superpowers and the U.N. to do something to prevent the fighting, it makes us wonder if their pious and sanctimonious talk of human rights, international peace and the prosperity of man are anything but cheap propaganda.

The Iran-Iraq war has entered its third year, and Iraq has demonstrated a positive approach towards all efforts designed to end the war. Against such a background, some world powers insist on continuing to provide Iran with arms so that it can continue its aggression against Iraq.

Nonetheless, the negative attitude of some Arabs, not to mention the pro-Iranian Arab nations, have played into the Iranian hands. Some Arab states have extended support to Iran regardless of the fact that it poses a threat to the national identity of not only Iraq but also the Arab Peninsula and the Arab Gulf. It is time for all Arabs to realise that Iraq is fighting their battle against hegemonic Iranian ambitions that hardly differ in form from the Zionists.

Sawt Al Shaab: War continues unabated

THE Iran-Iraq war enters its third year with no signs of an end to the killing and destruction. The Iraqi forces have heroically defended their soil, and their spirit of self-sacrifice testifies to the greatness of the Iraqi people, and their faith in the just of the battle they are fighting against Iran's expansionist and hegemonic ambitions.

Iraq's call for peace have invariably met with a stubborn Iranian response, which has cost the Iranian people thousands and thousands of young men and even children, sent by the Iranian fanatical leadership to fruitlessly die at the front. Iran, hiding behind Islamic pretexts, could have directed its forces against countries under atheist rule instead of invading a Muslim country. What makes things worse is the observer status adopted by world powers who rhetorically declare great concern for human rights. Worst of all is the attitude taken by the majority of Arab countries, and especially those who render material and moral support to the Iranian aggressors. It is time for the Arabs to abandon their indifference towards the threat Iran is posing against the Arabs, and start an effective effort aimed at saving their future.

Reagan plans a garden fence summit meeting

By Reginald Dale

WASHINGTON — This time, it's all going to be different. That is the determined intention of the Reagan administration as it gears up to host the next world economic summit meeting, the ninth such gathering of the leaders of the seven major Western nations, in Williamsburg, Virginia, 2½ hours drive south of Washington.

In what has become an annual ritual, the presidents or prime ministers of the U.S., the U.K., France, West Germany, Italy, Canada and Japan will meet in what is meant to be a secluded setting to discuss the world's, and their own, problems.

The Americans say that they have learned their lesson from past summits, at which they feel bureaucrats were allowed to hijack the meetings from the leaders who were meant to be making the running. The heads of government have become obliged to negotiate details of communiques and technical issues which they did not even know they were going to be confronted with, the Americans believe.

This time, they say, they do not plan to present the leaders with a pre-drafted communique, although there will be a "statement"

at the end of the summit. The plan is to leave it to the leaders themselves to decide what they want to say, and then ask their ministers and officials to work through the night to get it right. That would fly in the face of nearly all past precedents, and the Americans themselves confess that they are not totally sure that it will work.

Part of the reason for the new approach is the nostalgia of Mr. George Shultz, the Secretary of State, who was sent as a personal representative by President Gerald Ford to prepare the ground for the first summit in Rambouillet, outside Paris, in 1975. That meeting was the nearest that the Western leaders ever came to the informal private gathering that they said they were aiming for, and is generally rated one of the most successful.

Since then, the meetings have progressively degenerated into media events, in which the participants have found themselves trapped not only by their own officials but by the vast caravanserai of the world's press into performing on the public stage. It is too tempting to know that they can step outside, make a few remarks in front of the television cameras and get maximum publicity back home.

World statesmanship

Not infrequently, they say things to the press that are quite different from what they said in the meeting, but who is to know at the time? The greatest temptation is to appear on television in the company of the other participants, drumming home the image of world statesmanship. The second reason for such appearances is to explain to the domestic voter what on earth they are doing in a usually exotic location at the taxpayers' expense — particularly as prior expectations are usually raised much higher than actual results justify.

The Americans are fully aware of the risk. Indeed, they have almost masochistically exposed themselves to it by choosing colonial Williamsburg as the venue. The old town, founded in the early 17th century and painstakingly restored with the aid of Rockefeller money, is a picture postcard setting.

On a normal day in the tourist season, you may come across an actor dressed in 18th century costume riding down the main street pretending to be the sheriff, or watch a competitive display of Brown Bess musket and rifle-shooting, intended to underline the prowess of the American

sharpshooters against the redcoats in the War of Independence. The place looks like a stage television set, and it is hard to avoid the impression that this is one of the reasons why President Ronald Reagan, who has never really stopped being an actor, will feel at home there. It is his summit, and he wants to make the most of it.

His officials say, however, that he will not bend over backwards to make it a media success. The subjects for discussion — still only vaguely defined — roughly divide into a discussion of world macro-economic trends and East-West economic relations. The White House feels that in public relations terms Mr. Reagan is almost in a "no-lose situation."

He can either come out showing that he has persuaded his cantankerous allies to toe the American line, or he can decide to stir up a row in which he tells them (the Europeans in particular) where to get off — always good for a few political points in the U.S. Mr. Reagan originally asked his officials to find a site in his beloved California, but they reported that they were unable to find a place that could house the number of people involved and be surrounded by a tight enough security screen. Between 6,000 and 8,000 people are expected.

Mr. Allen Wallis, the State Department official responsible for preparing the ascent to the summit, a "Sherpa" in summit jargon, puts it this way: "Each head of government will have his or her own colonial house and they can talk over the back fence."

Simple American style

The atmosphere, officials say, will be "simple and American-style," and "anything but grandios." That is an obvious dig at President Francois Mitterrand's decision to hold last year's summit in Versailles, which the Americans cannot remotely match.

The Americans, however, are deadly serious about wanting to make it a more intimate occasion. The meeting lasts from Saturday evening on May 28 to midday on Monday May 30, so there will only be about six or seven hours for meeting around a table, not counting meals. If meals are added in, the Americans plan to have the leaders meeting totally on their own — with no other ministers or officials, only interpreters when necessary — for something over half the time.

The Americans believe that in the past foreign and finance ministers, who are also regular guests, have been hovering far too close.

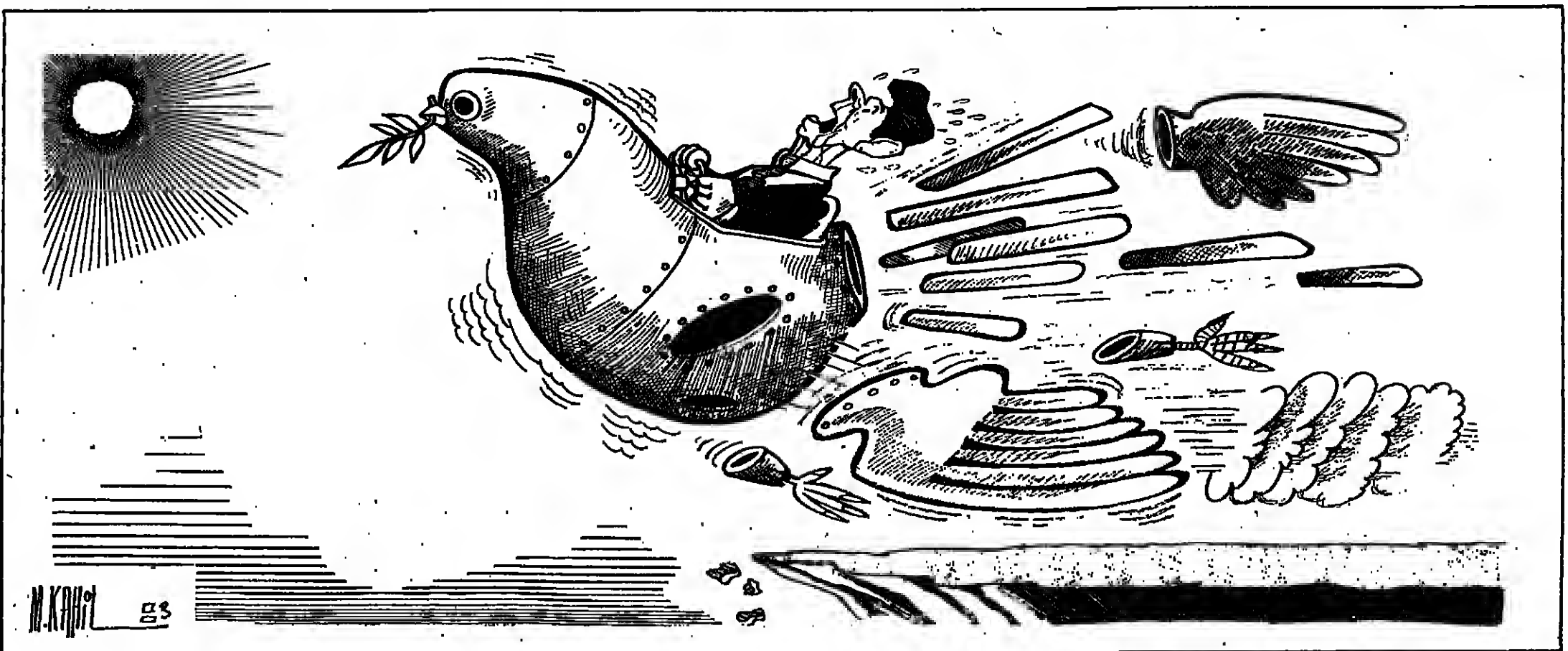
The "Sherpas" have already met twice, once at Saint Cloud on the outskirts of Paris in December, and again in San Diego, California, last month. They are to meet again in mid-April in Williamsburg, to get the feel of the place, and in mid-May in Washington. They all know each other well, and American officials describe their meetings as "intense but casual."

The American hosts say that they want a real, free-ranging discussion. They say the agenda has been far too structured in the past, creating artificial divisions between subjects that are closely inter-related. They do not want decisions to be negotiated or deals done.

The issues that made the Versailles summit a retrospective disaster, essentially differences between the U.S. and its allies about their political, economic and commercial approach to the Soviet Union — have not gone away. Ideally, the Americans would prefer a genial success to a blazing row.

The problem is that we have heard it all before. Nearly every summit hosts has started out with the same intentions of assuring an intimate atmosphere, and nearly all have failed in the end.

— Financial Times news features



The problems stem largely from centuries of glaring social and economic inequality

Central America sinks deeper into violence

By Bernd Debusmann
Reuter

MEXICO CITY — Central America, one of the world's perennial trouble spots, is sinking deeper into a quagmire of violence and mistrust despite renewed efforts to end the bloodshed by peaceful means.

Since Nicaragua's left-wing government last March reported it was fighting an infiltration force of 2,000 U.S. backed rightist exiles, all the signs are that Nicaragua is heading towards a conflict as prolonged and intractable as those in El Salvador and Guatemala.

"For the first time, the government is faced with a sizeable guerrilla presence inside the country," said a Western envoy in the Nicaraguan capital of Managua. "It is not a threat to the survival of the establishment but it is a problem that will not disappear soon."

The Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN), which has ruled Nicaragua since the end of a civil war in 1979, accused the United States of engineering the invasion and Honduras of providing bases and logistics support for right-wing counter-revolutionaries.

Nicaraguan warnings over the danger of open war with its nor-

thern neighbour Honduras raised tension throughout an area where three out of six countries are now fighting rebellions — two from the left and one from the right. At the United Nations and elsewhere, the Nicaraguan fighting prompted calls for negotiated solutions to embrace the entire region of 22 million people.

But analysts familiar with the area rated low the prospect of successful talks, citing the chief protagonists' conflicting views of the problems and their deep mistrust of each other. In the latest peace initiative, the presidents of Colombia, Panama and Costa Rica urged the withdrawal of foreign military advisers from Central America and an end to arms shipments.

The call, on April 10, coincided with reports that the United States was planning to establish a base with about 100 U.S. military advisers in Honduras to train soldiers for El Salvador's 24,000-strong army in a programme to complement the efforts of U.S. military personnel in El Salvador itself.

According to Costa Rican Foreign Minister Fernando Volio, there have been 18 different peace plans for Central America since 1980. Some of them contained language similar to that of the lat-

est proposal, none had success.

Economic inequality

Many analysts in Latin America and Europe agree that the problems of Central America stem largely from centuries of glaring social and economic inequality. The political and military fronts in the polarised region hardened further after the Reagan administration declared in 1981 that it was "drawing the line" against communism in Central America and said its conflicts were part of the ideological struggle between East and West.

In the U.S. analysis, Cuba and the Soviet Union are using Nicaragua as a launching pad for the export of left-wing revolution. Left unchecked, Washington argues, leftist violence will spread south to Panama and endanger its vital canal and north to Mexico and the very border of the United States.

In a speech last February, President Reagan said U.S. national security was at risk in Central America and added in a reference to Nicaragua: "The spectre of Marxist-Leninist controlled governments...with ideological and political loyalties to Cuba and the Soviet Union poses a direct challenge to which we must respond."

Many leftists and liberals in Latin America say the U.S. response was to give right-wing Nicaraguan exiles operating from Honduras the go-ahead to escalate their operations from cross-border raids into a full-blown guerrilla campaign. In the left-wing analysis, the U.S. is propping up right-wing governments, including some of the world's worst human rights offenders, to perpetuate U.S. dominance over a region Washington has traditionally regarded as its backyard.

"One side talks about national interest, the other about the evils of U.S. imperialism," said an international relief worker familiar with Central America's most troubled countries. "I often wish I could show those who make policy behind conference desks what the end result looks like on the ground."

Stomach-wrenching sights and harrowing survivors' tales testify to acts of brutality not restricted to one or the other side in Central America's fratricidal conflicts. Some recent glimpses of the wars: In El Salvador, two neatly severed heads stand in dark pools of dried blood on a roadside. In Guatemala, refugees say, troops of an elite unit descend on a village suspected of harbouring guerrillas,

shoot the men, rape the women, and kill infants by smashing their heads against walls.

Teach a lesson

Also in Guatemala, left-wing guerrillas question a suspected government informer and shoot him in front of his son, aged eight, to "teach a lesson."

In Nicaragua, right-wing killers slip into the house of a high-ranking Salvadorean guerrilla leader and stab her 82 times with icepicks before cutting her throat. Melida Anaya Montes, also known as Commandante Ana Maria, was second-in-command of the Marxist Popular Liberation Forces (FPL), one of the five combat groups under the umbrella of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN).

Her murder on April 6 raised fears in guerrilla ranks that their foes — both Nicaragua and the FMLN — would try to weaken the rebels by selective assassinations in the face of unsuccessful attempts to crush them on the battlefield.

Despite U.S. military and economic aid to El Salvador now totalling almost \$750 million, the army has failed to rout the insurgents and suffered a series of humiliating defeats in recent

months. Nicaraguan leaders believe the right-wing invasion was launched to create conditions for negotiations on the pattern of "if you stop your support for the Salvadorean guerrillas, we'll reign in the rightists fighting you."

U.S. enmity towards Nicaragua is based on the assertion that the Sandinists keep the war in El Salvador going with military advice and shipments of aid. But while they make no secret of their hope for a left-wing victory in El Salvador, the Nicaraguans deny they channel arms to the guerrillas.

In El Salvador, diplomatic sources say the army has become the insurgents' chief source of supplies, with most weapons captured and some bought from corrupt soldiers. Both in El Salvador and Guatemala, the insurgents have rebuffed government amnesty projects because they fear for their safety once they would lay down their arms.

While details of El Salvador's amnesty proposals are still being worked out, the guerrillas remember what happened to five members of the political wing of the FMLN who travelled to the country two years ago to talk about peace talks. The five were abducted by a right-wing death squad, tortured, and shot.

Thai poll pits military against political parties

By Michael Fathers
Reuter

BANGKOK — Thailand holds a controversially timed general election on Monday that pits the armed forces and their supporters against leading political parties. The poll is being held two months ahead of schedule, allowing voting under a system which seems to favour the army and which would have ceased automatically on April 21. Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda dissolved parliament last month and called the snap election two days after leg-

islators threw out an army-backed move to change the constitution. The parliamentary rebuff was a major humiliation for Thailand's ambitious army chief, General Arthit Kamlang-Ek, who personally sponsored the constitutional changes. His opponents maintain he forced the prime minister's hand over the dissolution and the snap poll. They say none of the cabinet was consulted by Prem and the dissolution order was distributed by the army's operation centre.

The often rumbustious campaign has been fought against a background of possible direct

army intervention either before or after the poll. Politicians have little doubt the army will try again after a new government is formed to introduce the constitutional changes rejected by the previous parliament.

The army want the appointed senate to be expanded to include representatives from all walks of life and for it to share equal power with the elected lower house. The changes would also allow serving generals to become prime ministers. Under the old voting system, any number of candidates, whether members of a political

party or not, to stand for separate constituencies.

Vote-buying

In Thailand, where vote-buying, influence-peddling and rigging are not uncommon, this process could be manipulated more easily than a province-wide slate system that would have come into effect automatically had the snap election not been called. The army and its supporters now expect a new, fragmented lower house with no party capable of forming a government alone.

This would allow Prem, whose only constituency is the armed forces, to remain prime minister of a new coalition that needs army backing to remain intact, analysts said. A landslide win for the country's two major parties, the Social Action Party (SAP) led by veteran politician and former Premier Kukrit Pramoji and the Democrats of Bhumai Rattakul, could upset all predictions. They have campaigned on the slogan "democracy versus dictatorship." If SAP and the Democrats were able to form a government independent of any other support it would not be too much of a surprise to expect an army coup," a Western diplomat said. "The first thing Kukrit and Bhumai would do would be to sack Arthit probably react first."

A record 1,830 candidates are contesting the 324 seats at stake, a fact that itself underscores the army's belief the vote will be splintered. At least 11 party workers, including two candidates, have been killed in the campaign — more than Thai losses in border fighting this month with Vietnamese troops. The fighting has helped the army claim that only it can guarantee Thai security.

Handwritten signature in Arabic script: "محمد بن عبد الله"

SPORTS

Liverpool still awaiting League

United, Brighton celebrate F.A. Cup semifinal victories

LONDON (R) — Manchester United and Brighton enjoyed the sweet taste of champagne Saturday, leaving their English Football Association (F.A.) Cup semifinal opponents Arsenal and Sheffield Wednesday with the bitter taste of defeat.

United reached the final for the ninth time with a 2-1 win over Arsenal at Villa Park, Birmingham. They fell behind to a 31st minute Tony Woodcock goal but hit back after the interval through captain Bryan Robson and teenage striker Norman Whiteside.

Brighton's celebration drinks started arriving by the case—courtesy of a 14th minute goal by Jimmy Case against second division Sheffield Wednesday at Highbury, London.

Yugoslav Ante Mirocivic equalised for Wednesday 10 minutes after the interval but Brighton, appearing in the semifinals for the first time in their history, made sure of a Wembley date with United on May 21 when Michael Robinson scored the winner 12 minutes from time.

But League Champions-elect Liverpool had to put their champagne back on ice for the time

being. They travelled to Southampton needing three points to be certain of the title but went down 3-2 in an old fashioned 90-minute thriller.

United, who lost to Liverpool in the League Cup final at Wembley last month looked to be heading for another disappointment when they fell behind.

Goalkeeper Gary Bailey inexplicably dropped a harmless looking cross and Yugoslav World Cup star Vladimir Petrovic turned the ball across the face of goal for Woodcock to tap home from close range.

But after Robson equalised 10 minutes after the interval it was one-way traffic towards George Wood in the Arsenal goal.

And Justice was finally done in the 69th minute when 17-year-old Whiteside scored a memorable winner with an explosive volley.

Former Liverpool favourite Case has become the hero of relegation-haunted Brighton's stirring cup run. He scored the winner against Liverpool in the fifth round and repeated that feat against Norwich in the quarter-finals.

He shot Brighton ahead with a 25-metre drive and made the win-

ner for Robinson when he fired in another long-range thunderbolt which Wednesday goalkeeper Bob Bolder could only palm into the path of the Irish striker.

Liverpool and Southampton turned in a feast of football at the Dell, all five goals coming in an enthralling first 45 minutes.

Steve Moran shot Southampton ahead with a second minute penalty but Liverpool bounced back in typical fashion and swept into a 2-1 lead through Kenny Dalglish and Craig Johnston in the 13th and 16th minutes.

But the game swung again when Nick Holmes scored an unexpected equaliser in the 22nd minute and the same player struck again four minutes from the interval.

Collecting a loose ball 30 metres out he spotted Zimbabwean goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar off his line and curled the most delicate of chips into the net.

However, there was bad news for Brighton in the league. Birmingham won 1-0 at Coventry, Norwich beat Sunderland 2-0 and Manchester City beat West Ham by the same score.

With Swansea and Luton also picking up a point, Brighton are

now two points adrift at the bottom although they have a game in hand over most of their rivals.

Scottish Cup holders Aberdeen, chasing a unique treble in the closing weeks of the season, moved nearer trophy number one with a 1-0 win over Celtic in the semifinal at Hampden.

But they will need to wait until Tuesday to learn the identity of their cup final opponents. Rangers and St. Mirren drew 1-1 at Celtic Park and will meet again at Hampden in midweek.

Aberdeen, who are also in the running for the Premier League Championship and the European Cupwinners' Cup, outplayed Celtic for much of the match but it took them until the 65th minute to secure victory, substitute Peter Weir scoring.

Rangers, bidding to reach the final for the eighth successive year, appeared to be well on the road to victory when Sandy Clark, their recent signing from West Ham, put them ahead in the 72nd minute.

But St. Mirren were handed an unexpected reprieve when Rangers' defender Craig Paterson turned the ball into his own net six minutes from time.

Waitz aims for world best in 3rd London marathon

LONDON (R) — Norwegian Grete Waitz will be aiming for a women's world best time when around 18,000 competitors set off on the third London marathon this Sunday.

Waitz, 29, one of a select group who have shattered the myth that women runners are too fragile to run the daunting 42,195-metre distance, was the first woman home in last October's New York marathon.

After flying into London Thursday Waitz said she was hoping to return a faster time than the two hours 27 minutes 14 seconds she ran in New York against a strong head wind, suggesting that she will be aiming for New Zealander Alison Roe's world best of 2:25.29 set in New York two years.

Sunday's race will be the first

Waitz has run outside the U.S. and she has said that it will be her last marathon before the inaugural World Championship in Helsinki in August after which she plans to retire.

None of the world's top men marathoners will be taking part on Sunday and the organisers would be delighted if Waitz set a world best to help give the event comparable status with the longer-established New York race.

The London marathon is the brainchild of Britain's 1956 Olympic steeplechase champion Chris Brasher, who was largely responsible for the event getting underway in 1981.

Even Brasher, a self-confessed incurable optimist, was staggered by the way it caught the public's imagination.

On a cold, overcast Sunday in March a million singing, cheering spectators lined the route from Greenwich along the River Thames to watch the 7,055 assorted competitors run past some of London's historic sights including the Tower of London, the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben.

The race was won jointly by Norway's Inge Simonsen and Dick Beardsley of the U.S. in the respectable if hardly earth-shattering time of 2:11.48 with Britain's Joyce Smith the first woman home in 2:29.56.

With success assured the organisers more than doubled the field last year to 16,350 with Britain's Hugh Jones winning in 2:09.24 and Smith repeating her triumph of the previous year in 2:29.43.

This year the field has been further increased, to probably the maximum possible, but Brasher is already dreaming of bigger if not necessarily better things.

"The most exciting prospect that I can see is a world marathon championship," he wrote in this year's official programme.

"The scene will be a great historic city somewhere in the world—a city prepared to stage what amounts to three marathons on the same day."

Brasher said the 50 best women marathoners would start first, followed by the 100 best men marathoners and then a mass field "taking part just for the fun and satisfaction of running in the greatest of all marathons—the world championship."

Australia reaches Women's World Hockey Cup semifinals

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Fourth-seeded Australia advanced into the Women's World Hockey Cup semifinals from Group 'A' with the Netherlands when they drew 1-1 with the United States in a qualifying match here Saturday.

Unbeaten England also looked set to go through after an emphatic 3-1 victory over the Soviet Union in a Group 'B' match, but the final two qualifiers will only be known after the group's three matches on Sunday.

Australia qualified for Wednesday's semifinals on goal difference after a four draw against an uninspiring U.S. team who had to win to qualify.

The Australians, whose forwards wore down the defensive Americans in the second half, seemed to have wrapped it up when tournament top scorer Elisabeth Clement drove home a scorching penalty corner in the 51st minute.

But the Americans replied with a penalty corner conversion by Beth Anders three minutes from time.

England, on the other hand, turned on a tremendous second-half performance to beat the Soviet Union and would have to lose by two goals against second-seeded West Germany on Sunday not to qualify.

Forward substitute Ruth Hine, dubbed super-sub after scoring two vital goals in earlier matches, did it again for England four minutes into the second half, crowning a brilliant three-player move.

The Soviet squad pulled one back two minutes later with a close-range flick by world-class midfielder Natalia Krasnikova, but the rampaging English side

added two more.

Who goes through with England from Group 'B' is still anybody's guess though the fast-improving Canadians, in second place behind England, look the most likely.

Canada, who have won their last two games against Argentina and West Germany in great style, play the Soviet Union who would need a hatful of goals to qualify.

In the third group 'B' match Sunday, New Zealand, who faded after a good start, take on Argentina, who are propping up the table.

The top-seeded Netherlands, chasing their third World Cup victory, finished their final group match in style, coasting to an easy 3-1 win over Wales. But they must wait for the outcome of Sunday's matches to find out their semifinal opponents.

Renault books front row grid positions in French Grand Prix

LE CASTELLET, France (R) — Frenchman Alain Prost and American Eddie Cheever Saturday secured front row positions on the grid for their turbo-charged Renaults in the French Formula One Grand Prix here Sunday.

Prost won pole position with the fastest lap time of one minute 36.67 seconds—an average speed of 216.36 kph (134.44 mph) — more than two seconds ahead of Cheever.

Behind them will be nine other turbo-charged cars with Austrian Niki Lauda in 12th place in the first conventional engine car.

Italy's Riccardo Patrese, driving a Lotus, and another Frenchman Rene Arnoux, in a Ferrari, will start from the second row.

Another Lotus, driven by Italian Elio de Angelis, and Brazilian Nelson Piquet's Brabham will occupy fifth and sixth positions.

Andrea de Cesaris of Italy, fastest Friday until his Lotus was disqualified for running with two empty fire extinguishers, set only the seventh fastest time.

Ferrari also encountered severe problems with Arnoux's car suffering a spectacular turbo failure in the closing minutes of practice.

At the end of the session, the stewards announced new safety measures because several teams intended to refuel during the 34-lap race, a distance of 313.74 km (194.95 miles).

In an official statement they said the pit area would be restricted to team members only, and 30 minutes before the start all teams would have to remove all barriers between the boxes to allow easy access to the security services.

The teams planning a pit-stop are Brabham, Williams, Ferrari, Renault, Alfa-Romeo and Ligier.

Connors battles through to semifinals

LOS ANGELES (R) — Top-seeded Jimmy Connors and two other Americans, second seed Gene Mayer and fourth-seeded Brian Gottfried, battled through to the semifinals of the \$255,000 Pacific Southwest Tennis Open tournament Friday.

Connors, the defending champion who has won the title three times, is trying to become only the third player in the history of the 57-year-old event to capture the title four times.

But the top seed narrowly es-

aped defeat Friday before rallying to beat eighth-seeded Sandy Mayer of the U.S., 2-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Connors will next meet the winner of the last quarter-final Johan Kriek of South Africa who beat Hank Pfister of the U.S., the 10th seed.

Gene Mayer, Sandy's younger brother, and Gottfried will play in the other semi-final. Mayer, the 1980 champion, beat ninth-seeded Tim Mayotte of the U.S., 7-5, 6-2, and Gottfried beat the number 13 seed Mike DePalmer

of the U.S., 6-2, 6-4.

Sandy Mayer led 4-2 in the third set, just two games away from pulling off the tournament's biggest upset. Mayer mixed his shots and changed the pace of the ball to keep Connors off balance for much of the match.

But Connors met the challenge and reeled off the next four games, breaking Mayer twice for the come-from-behind victory.

"Down 4-2, 0-30, I made a lucky escape to win the match," Connors said.

FIFA team to visit U.S.

NEW YORK (R) — The United States Soccer Federation (USSF) said Friday they had been notified that a special delegation will visit the United States later this month to review the American bid to host the 1986 World Cup final.

A USSF spokesman said the notification from the International Football Federation (FIFA) had renewed U.S. hopes of staging the 1986 finals.

It also reversed a decision by FIFA last month that they would pursue only the candidacy of Mexico, who along with the United States and Canada are bidding to stage the competition.

Werner Fricker, chairman of the USSF World Cup Organizing Committee, said: "We are extremely pleased that a special FIFA delegation will be coming to review our abilities to stage the World Cup."

"We are confident that we can meet all the requirements needed to host the world's premier sporting event and feel that no other nation in the world is better equipped to stage it."


FIFA are scheduled to announce their decision on the venue at an executive meeting in Stockholm on May 20.

Lendl gets revenge against tennis newcomer


HILTON HEAD ISLAND, South Carolina (R) — It was a case of sweet revenge for Ivan Lendl Friday night when he crushed a big-serving newcomer to top-class tennis who humbled the Czechoslovak tennis ace a month ago.

Lendl, the number one seed, beat Mark Dickson of the U.S., 6-2, 6-2, 6-2 in the quarterfinals of the \$250,000 World Championship Tennis (WCT) spring finals.


The Czechoslovak will play fourth seed Brian Teacher while second seed Guillermo Vilas of Argentina meets number six Tomas Smid of Czechoslovakia in the semifinals.




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NOTICE OF CANCELLATION

The delegation of the commission of the European Communities, regrets to announce the cancellation of the lecture to be given by Mr. Edward Heath, M.P.

at the Chamber of Industries lecture hall, Monday, April 18th 1983.
Due to urgent parliamentary business Mr. Heath is unable to travel at this time.

Apologies for any inconvenience caused.


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مركز الثقافة

ECONOMY

Soviet industry criticised

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet leadership told the men who run this vast country's ailing economy Saturday to iron out an excessive number of shortcomings caused by inefficiency and lack of coordination.

A toughly-worded directive from the Communist Party central committee said there were too many instances of "correcting" targets to make them easier to reach, and of industrial chains breaking down because some sectors ignored supply deadlines.

In the directive published Saturday on the front page of the Communist Party daily Pravda,

five ministries came in for specific criticism for not meeting contracts.

These included the heavy and transport engineering ministry, whose chief Mr. Vladimir Zhigalin resigned last week officially for health reasons. He was replaced by Mr. Sergei Afanasyev, formerly in charge of general engineering, thought by Western analysts to include military work.

The other ministries criticised were those responsible for the chemical, power industry machinery, pulp, paper and wood processing, and non-ferrous metal sectors.

Party leader Mr. Yuri Andropov said in a major article in February that changes in the Soviet economy were long overdue. The hallmark of his new regime has become discipline and accountability for failure as well as success.

The press, radio and television should not only focus on the achievements of the best industries but should also spotlight shortcomings, the party directive said.

The state planning authority was told to exercise tight control over the use and distribution of raw materials.

There have been complaints in the press from some workers that they have been unable to keep up their previously high production figures because raw materials often fail to arrive.

"Supply discipline is damaged by the accepted practice of altering production plans on the reduction side, correcting them to below the actual production programme."

"Such changes to annual and quarterly plans are often made without considering the other sectors linked to delivery so that the economic chain between enterprises is broken," the directive said.

Sterling rises to 2-month high

LONDON (R) — Sterling reached its highest level for more than two months Friday against other currencies on continued expectations of stable oil prices and an early Conservative election victory.

The pound's trade-weighted index, which measures its overall strength against a basket of other currencies in relation to its 1975 value, showed it rising to 82.9 per cent, its highest level since January 24.

Oil prices help

Sterling has been supported over the past week by the prospect of stable oil prices following the agreement of major oil companies to the North Sea benchmark of \$30 a barrel proposed by the British National Oil Corporation.

It has also benefited, from speculation that Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher will call and win a general election in June, almost a year before expiry of her mandate, despite a lack of any clear indication to that effect from Mrs. Thatcher herself.

The prime minister said Friday, not for the first time, that she had not yet determined an election date but currency dealers said the balance of market opinion still expected a June election.

Dealers said sterling's attractiveness was also due to the lack of any marked depreciation in response to a cut of 0.5 per cent in British banks' base lending rates to 10 per cent.

They said they did not expect further cuts in interest rates for the present.

In another indication of confidence in Britain's economic outlook, the Financial Times index of 30 leading shares rose to a new

record of 695.5 points at Friday's close.

Howe sees hope

Meanwhile, British chancellor of the exchequer Sir Geoffrey Howe said there was more hope than for many years that exchange rate stability could be achieved with the help of lower inflation and world economic recovery.

The crucial conditions for stability, he said in a prepared address to British businessmen, were that economic prospects and policies in the world's major economies should come closer together, and that all countries should maintain progress in fighting inflation.

Once stability had been achieved, there might in due course be scope for a cautious return towards some more structured world system for the major currencies, Sir Geoffrey said.

The world has had a system of floating exchange rates since the early 1970s, which has often been blamed as a source of economic instability.

Sir Geoffrey said it would have been wrong to set an exchange rate target for sterling in recent years, due to sharp movements in world currencies.

Since the European Monetary System, of which Britain is not a member, began in March 1979, sterling had risen almost 30 per cent against the French franc and Italian lira and by 15 per cent against the system's member currencies overall, but it had fallen by 25 per cent against the dollar.

Trying to maintain a target in those circumstances, Mr. Howe said, would have meant huge and damaging instability in British interest rates and economic policies.

Reagan's income, taxes soar

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan's income and federal taxes soared last year, mainly because of a big profit he made on the sale of his Los Angeles home, his tax return showed Friday.

Like millions of other Americans, Mr. Reagan and his wife Nancy filed their joint 1982 return Friday afternoon, a few hours before the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) midnight deadline.

A copy of the return issued by the White House showed total income of \$741,253, including the president's government salary of \$200,000, as well as interest, dividends and income from the house sale.

This federal tax obligation was \$292,616.

In 1981, the Reagans reported an income of \$418,826 and paid taxes of \$165,291.

Taxes paid represented about 40 per cent of income in both years. The highest tax rate is 50 per cent, but most Americans pay less because of deductions for charitable contributions, property and state income taxes and other payments.

Mr. Reagan had his Los Angeles home built in the Pacific Palisades area of the city for \$25 million in 1956, spent about \$160,000 on improvements, and sold it last year for \$1 million.

Taxes on the sale were reduced because of commissions and other deductible expenses of almost \$96,000 and the further deduction by the 72-year-old president of \$125,000 in profit, a provision available to all homeowners at least 55 years old.

Reagan's charitable donations, which were also deducted from his taxable income, totalled \$15,563.

The largest single donation of \$5,000 went to Eureka College in Illinois, his alma mater, where last summer he announced his proposal for removing U.S. and Soviet medium-range nuclear missiles from Europe.

Turkey ups exports to Gulf countries

DOHA (OPECNA) — The value of Turkish exports to Gulf Arab member countries of OPEC continued to rise last year, according to figures released by Turkey's trade ministry.

The figures, quoted here by the Gulf Times newspaper, show that Turkish exports to Qatar in 1982 were worth \$4 million, against \$2.9 million in the previous year.

However, the value of Qatari exports to Turkey, which reached \$2.8 million in 1981, were not given for last year.

Iraq, Turkey's biggest trading partner in the region, imported goods valued at \$610.4 million last year, compared with \$559 million in 1981, but Iraqi exports to Turkey fell from \$1.56 billion to \$1.31 billion.

Turkey sold \$358 million worth of goods to its second largest market in the Gulf, Saudi Arabia, against \$187.4 million in 1981.

Saudi Arabia recorded a \$119.2 million trade surplus with Turkey, which imported \$477.2 million worth of Saudi goods last year, compared with \$410.4 million in 1981.

Turkey also suffered a trade deficit with Kuwait. Turkish exports to Kuwait were worth \$87 million last year, up from \$71 million in 1981, but imports from Kuwait amounted to \$92.4 million, down from \$106.7 million in 1981.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Jakarta denies devaluation rumours

JAKARTA (R) — Rumours that Indonesia was about to devalue the rupiah again -- later denied by the government -- triggered a nationwide buying spree Friday. Newspapers reported panic in the main towns as people rushed to buy anything they could from household goods to gold bars. The rumours were quashed by Economy Minister Ali Wardhana, who went on radio and television Friday night to say the government had not considered another cut in the rupiah's value since it devalued by 27.47 per cent last month.

B.L. threatens to sack strikers

LONDON (R) — State-owned British Leyland (B.L.) Friday night threatened to sack 5,000 striking carworkers unless they end a three-week-old strike over cleaning up time. The stoppage at the Cowley works in southern England has brought production of the company's successful new Austin Maestro car to a standstill and cost more than £60 million (\$90 million).

U.S. industrial output rises

WASHINGTON (R) — A rise in U.S. industrial output and a fall in prices announced Friday were very good news and just the kind of recovery the Reagan administration was hoping for, a senior U.S. economic adviser said Friday. Industrial output in the United States rose by 1.1 per cent in March, while wholesale prices fell by 0.1 per cent.

Gulf bank boosts profits

DOHA (OPECNA) — The Gulf International Bank recorded a profit of \$50.8 million in 1982 compared with \$34.6 million the previous year, a 46 per cent increase. The bank announced at the end of its general meeting that assets had risen by 38 per cent to \$6.2 billion, while loans were up by 43 per cent. The meeting approved a dividend of \$2.65 million each of the seven shareholders -- Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Brokers propose protection scheme

LONDON (R) — A committee of brokers in London's futures markets Friday proposed a compensation fund and a new code of practice to protect private clients. The joint exchanges committee proposed the setting up of a futures brokers' association, one of whose aims will be the establishment of a compensation fund, allowing private clients to claim up to £7,500 (\$11,560) in the event of a broker's default. The committee said small private clients were a recent development in futures markets and it was necessary to establish a clearer relationship with them to avoid damage to the markets' reputation.

Wall Street stocks close high

NEW YORK (R) — Stock prices closed at record levels for the third straight day by Wall Street Friday after the U.S. government reported positive economic news. The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 6.09 points at a record 1,171.34 after a buying spree in the final minutes. The transportation index improved 6.04 points to 529.94 and in the broader market advancing issues were ahead of losers, 984 to 641. "The market is feeding on itself more than anything else," said Mr. L. Crandall Hays of the Milwaukee-based investment firm of Robert W. Baird. "Next week we'll have a wave of profit-taking," he said, adding that despite this the market would probably close out the month at another all-time high.

Nigerian oil output still below quota

LAGOS (R) — Nigeria's oil output in March averaged 900,000 barrels per day (b/d), the third successive month below one million b/d, and April production is also likely to be below that figure industry sources said Friday. Nigeria, a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), was allocated a quota of 1.3 million b/d at last month's OPEC meeting, but the sources said it would now need to produce at least 1.5 million b/d for the rest of the year to meet that figure. The slump in sales over the last 12 months has hit Nigeria hard and a shortage of foreign exchange has led to a buildup of short-term trading debts estimated by bankers here at about \$5 billion.

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, APR. 17, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day to consider what new plan of action you can put into motion in which you and friends will benefit. You can gain the goodwill of others now by being more cooperative.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Talk with family members and find out what is expected of you, and thereby reinforce mutual agreements. Be happy.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Study your surroundings and make positive plans for improvement. Make right preparations for the new week.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Make good use of this day by exchanging ideas with good friends. More affection for loved one brings excellent response.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) An ideal day for establishing more harmony at home. Discuss upcoming projects with the proper persons.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Good day for studying philosophical matters that can help make your life more satisfying. Engage in hobby with congenials.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Fine day to meditate and to make plans to have more abundance in the future. Avoid one who is too talkative.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You are highly magnetic today and fine benefits can come your way. Plan the right way to handle new responsibilities.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Study whatever is puzzling to you and come up with the right answer. The romantic side of life is in your favor.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Know what your true desire is and make plans to attain it. You have many good friends -- contact them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Gain the favor of one who has your interests at heart. Become more dynamic and gain added prestige.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Put those good ideas to work which can help you to advance in your line of endeavor. Making new contacts now is wise.

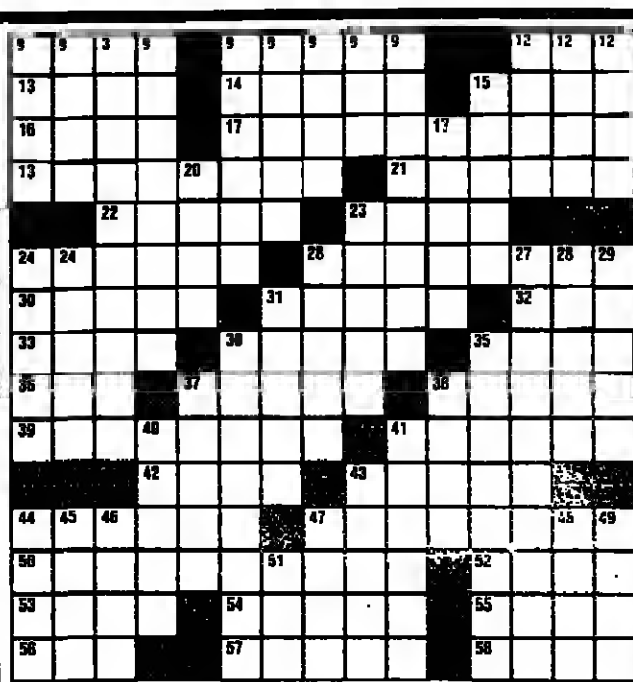
PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Your hunches are particularly good now and should be followed to make life easier and happier for you in the future.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be able to accomplish a great deal in life because of the ability and willingness to work hard and without complaint. Sports are a must here. There is musical talent in this child that should be encouraged.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword by Albert J. Klaus

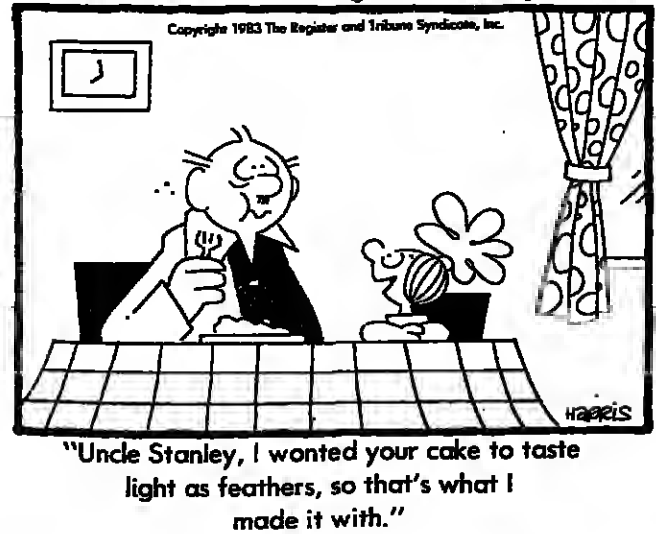
ACROSS	23 Festival	43 Food fish	18 Resembling
1 Fruit	24 Daisylila	44 Hope	19 loose
2 stones	25 Towars	47 Wows	20 tissue
3 Sand	26 Indian	47 Worka's	20 Nobleman
4 payment	30 Rib wovan	50 Track	23 Stood open-
10 WWII area	31 Journal	52 Roman road	24 Teta-
13 Yamen city	32 Liquor	53 Harem rooms	25 Lovar, old
14 By oneself	33 Dines	54 Deleta	26 style
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16 apparatus	35 Emphatic	56 Sweet	27 Flight
18 Divorce	35 essant.	57 Not now	28 Charlotia-
17 Gama lor	36 Muscular	58 Smila	28 Exudes
19 Withdrawals	37 Fathared	DOWN	31 Gay -
21 Sewing	38 Storage	1 Young	34 Small lish
22 Perform	39 Improved	1 Young	35 Uttering
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		48 Son of	
		49 Persian	
		50 Macaw	



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THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



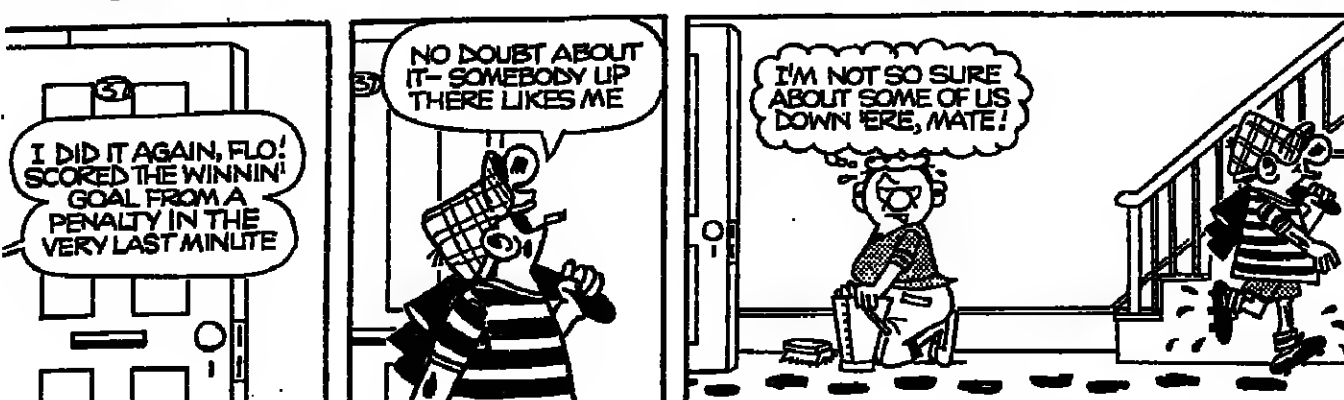
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff

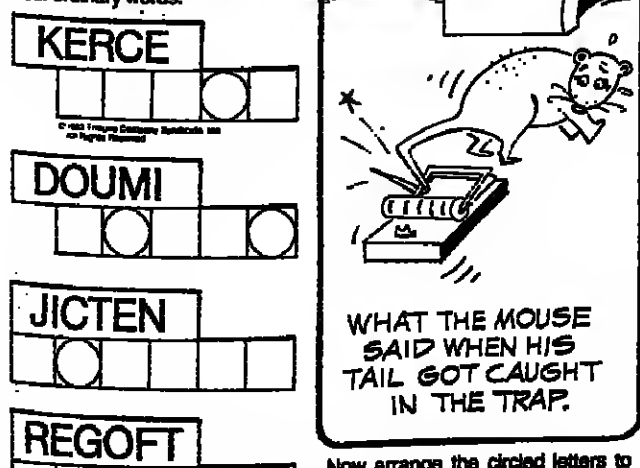


Andy Capp



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer here: THAT'S THE OF

Yesterday's Jumbles: EAGLE MOTIF BEWARE GENDER Answer: What the cattle raiser did when he got a bum steer--BEEFED ABOUT IT

WORLD

Walesa vows to meet Solidarity activists despite police pressure

WARSAW (R) — Police Saturday kept up pressure on Solidarity leader Lech Walesa, releasing one aide they held overnight but indicating they would call in another for questioning, sources at his Gdansk home said.

The police moves followed three days of investigation, including interviews with Walesa and his wife, after his announcement that he held a secret meeting with Solidarity underground leaders last weekend.

The sources said Walesa's driver, Mieczyslaw Wachowski, was freed this morning. He was held for more than 24 hours but only questioned for about one hour, they said.

However the wife of Walesa's spokesman, Adam Kinaszewski, who worked formerly with the state broadcasting service, said police had tried to deliver a summons for him while he was out of the house and she had refused to accept it.

A family spokesman said the driver had not been involved in the disappearance of Walesa, who has said he evaded police surveillance to meet the five-man underground coordinating commission last weekend.

Walesa said Friday he planned to meet the commission again. He said because of the detention of his driver he would not be travelling to Warsaw to attend a special march and wreath-laying ceremony Sunday for the fighters of the Jewish ghetto uprising against the Nazis.

The march has been arranged independently of official ceremonies on the 40th anniversary of the uprising and is expected to attract many former Solidarity officials.

Walesa will be attending the consecration in a Gdansk church Sunday night of a new auxiliary bishop. The ceremony is being conducted by the Poland's Catholic primate, Cardinal Jozef Glemp.

Asked how he managed to elude police and meet the underground's five-man provisional coordinating commission last weekend, Walesa said Friday:

"I simply did my job better than they did. I had to shake them off... I can do it again the same way as last time."

In Warsaw, meanwhile, clandestine Radio Solidarity was heard Friday night calling on trade unionists worldwide to help Polish activists facing trial for dissident activity.

The three-minute broadcast, almost drowned out by music, referred to legal proceedings against Solidarity leaders and their allies as "violations of human and civil rights" and said their oppressors would "end up on the trash heap of history."

The radio described proceedings against seven senior Solidarity leaders arrested last December as "the trial of us all, of millions of members and sympathisers of Solidarity."

"This violates the rights of the working people and of their democratically elected representatives," the radio said.

Turkey thanks Greece for capturing hijacker

ANKARA (R) — Turkey Saturday thanked the Greek government for securing the release of 114 passengers and crew of a Turkish airliner hijacked to Athens and for capturing the lone hijacker.

A warmly-worded message of thanks sent to Greek Foreign Minister Ioannis Charalambopoulos by his Turkish counterpart, Ilter Turkmen, was in marked contrast with the usual chilly state of relations between the two countries.

An official announcement of the message also said Turkmen and the Greek minister had been in telephone contact during Friday's events.

This was believed in Ankara to be the first official act of cooperation between the two ministers since talks aimed at resolving Greek-Turkish differences were called off last year.

The hijacker of the plane, a 25-year-old chemistry student identified as Mahmoud Kalkan, was overpowered by police Friday night and was later quoted by investigators as saying: "I am opposed to the regime in Turkey and I could not live there any more."

The hijacker threatened the crew at knife-point and negotiated for seven hours with Greek authorities and the Australian ambassador in Athens, demanding a passage to Sydney.

In his message to Athens, Turkmen said: "We are very pleased that the affair ended without bloodshed, without the crew or passengers being hurt and with the capture of the hijacker."

He said he would go to South Africa as planned "to promote the film and the principles embodied within it in the hope of fostering some inclination towards non-violent social change."

Attenborough added that when in South Africa he would try to persuade the government to allow racially-integrated audiences to see the film throughout its entire run.

Earlier Friday the South African government said it would open charity premieres of the film to all races.

But Friday night Attenborough said in a statement that if he attended any premiere it would be one next Wednesday in the township of Lenasia near Johannesburg, which is to benefit an Indian charity.

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Soviet vessel reportedly finds Sidharta survivors

SINGAPORE (R) — A Soviet vessel is reported to have rescued four survivors of a crippled German-owned yacht adrift in the South China Sea after being attacked near the disputed Spratly Islands, official sources said Saturday.

A Malaysian radio ham, Inche Ismail Abdul Razak, told Reuters a Soviet nuclear submarine sent out frogmen to pick up the survivors and transfer them to a Soviet freighter.

The sources discounted the possibility of a Russian submarine involved in the rescue attempt. But they said West German authorities were investigating the reports.

A German embassy spokesman here said: "We will not comment on these reports at this stage. But the search operations are still continuing."

The Soviet navy is active in the area. It uses southern Vietnam's Cam Ranh Bay as a main base for its operations in the Indian Ocean and the Asian Pacific.

The 15 metre yacht Sidharta, carrying five West Germans and a Singapore girl, came under attack near one of the Spratly Islands last Sunday. It said in a distress signal it was ablaze after coming under fire.

Inche Ismail quoted the Soviet submarine as saying in a message to the survivors: "We are your friends. Follow the frogmen. Do not be afraid. Our submarine will take you to Moscow for medical treatment."

The radio ham also said the submarine was going to transfer them to another Soviet ship. Amateur radio operators in the region reported picking up a weak message from the Sidharta Friday, saying that two of the crew had been killed and the others were badly in need of food and water.

The sources said West German officials were checking the reports with Soviet authorities.

They said the message from the unidentified Soviet freighter had been picked up by another cargo vessel in the area and relayed to Brunel, 320 kilometres southeast of the Spratlys, where an air-sea search has been mounted.

West German embassy officials in Manila said that the yacht had intended to set up an amateur radio link on the island of Amborn Cay, where Vietnam was believed to have a military garrison.

The Sidharta, which left Singapore's Changi Yacht Club more than a week ago, was skippered by its co-owner Peter Marx. His girlfriend Jane Toh and four other West German radio ham operators from Cologne were also aboard.

Prostitute, Francine Tookes' comments were not recorded as she was sentenced Friday to 30 days in jail and fined \$300.

Hotel night manager Steve Fox, 26, told a court he was given money by the police, told to pick up a prostitute then report her, once a "violation" had occurred.

He said he gave Tookes \$70 for sexual intercourse in his parked car and then drove her "out of a sense of civic duty" into the hands of waiting police.

Mohr said the practice amounted to police entrapment. "The police are, in effect, inviting males to satisfy their sexual urges in order for the police to accomplish their goals," he said.

Tookes' constitutional rights were violated because prostitution was also illegal for the customer and Fox was not charged in the case, he added.

District Court Judge Melvin Soong said the police practice was deceptive, but did not constitute misconduct.

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Bonn seeks whereabouts of 8 missing in Libya

BONN (R) — A Bonn minister flew to Tripoli Saturday to seek information on the fate of eight West Germans who have disappeared in Libya, a government spokesman said.

He said Juergen Moellmann, minister of state at the foreign ministry, would use a long-planned visit to ask who was holding the men, all employees of West German firms.

A Bonn spokesman said he assumed they were not in Libyan government custody. He declined to comment on reports that they had been kidnapped by a radical group to put pressure on Bonn over the trial in West Germany of a Libyan doctor.

Dr. Mustapha Zaidi goes on trial on Monday charged with involvement in alleged torture of two Libyan students in a Libyan People's Bureau (embassy) residence in Bonn.

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Shultz to visit Mexico

WASHINGTON (R) — Secretary of State George Shultz and other high U.S. officials go to Mexico Sunday for meetings with leaders of their southern neighbour about the conflict in Central America and the state of the debt-ridden Mexican economy.

Mr. Shultz has said the U.S. would seek greater cooperation by Mexico with Washington on the conflicts in El Salvador and Nicaragua.

The hard U.S. line on Central America has distressed the Mexicans, who would like to see the violence in El Salvador ended through negotiations involving all sides to the dispute, including the anti-government left-wing guerrillas.

President Reagan acknowledged on Thursday that Washington had backed anti-government guerrillas in leftist Nicaragua. But he said this was aimed at depriving the guerrillas in El Salvador of their supply lines.

Mr. Reagan said the United States was fully complying with a congressional prohibition on activities aimed at overthrowing Nicaragua's government.

Mr. Shultz will be accompanied by Treasury Secretary Donald Regan and Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige, who will confer with their opposite numbers in the four-month-old government of President Miguel de la Madrid.

The U.S. officials are due to meet President de la Madrid on Tuesday and the Central American situation is likely to come up then as well as at talks between Mr. Shultz and Mexican Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda Amor.

In Dallas Friday Mr. Shultz said Mexico is the third largest trading partner of the United States.

Leftists plan protests

MEXICO CITY (R) — Leftist parties have said they would demonstrate against the visit to Mexico of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, Treasury Secretary Donald Regan and Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige.

They declared that the rallies would object to the financial pressure they said the U.S. ministers would apply on Mexico to moderate its backing of Central American leftists.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Greek guerrilla group taken seriously

ATHENS (R) — Greek police said Saturday they were taking seriously a new claim by a leftist guerrilla group of responsibility for this week's bomb attack on Saudi diplomats and a string of other bombings in the last seven years. A message from a movement called "Popular and Revolutionary Solidarity" said in a message found in Athens during the night that it had carried out bomb attacks against U.S., Israeli, British, Saudi and French targets in Greece dating back to 1976.

The message enclosed a photocopy of rental documents used to hire the car which exploded in north Athens on Wednesday as a Saudi diplomat was driving past, injuring him and his driver.

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